MODIFIED PTO/SB/08 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B INFORMATION DISCLOSURE RAPEN STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Date Submitted: June 10, 2003

(use as many sheets as necessary) Sheet of

Compl t if Known				
Application Numb r	09/964,562			
Filing Dat	09/28/2001			
First Nam d Inventor	Eiji HIRAI			
Group Art Unit	3682			
Examiner Name	W. Joyce			
Attorney Docket Number	040679-1367			

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	U.S. Patent Document			Date of Publication of	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
			:			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	For Office ³	reign Patent D Number ⁴	ocument Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T
								4

		NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T⁵
wed	A1	Linda M. WING, "The Use of Electroless Nickel on Automotive Components," Trans Inst. Met. Finish; Transactions of the Institute of Metal Finishing; January 1997, 75(1); pp. 11-14.	
		GROUP 12003	
		362	

Examiner Signature	William Chom	Date Considered	11/3/03	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.